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National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday 16 November 1982

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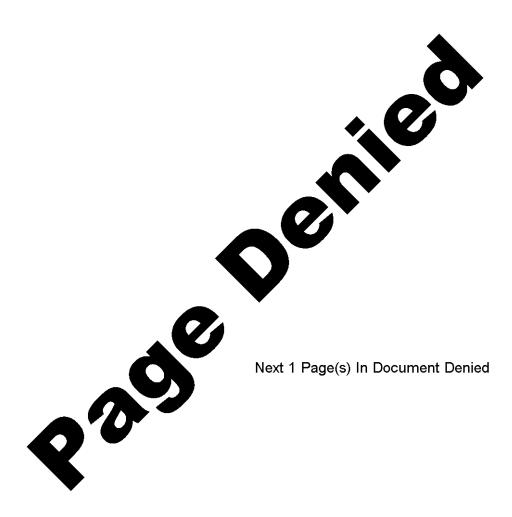
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PAKISTAN-US: F-16 Issue

President Zia told Under Secretary of State Eagle-burger on Sunday that the F-16 fighter aircraft being supplied to Pakistan will have to include the advanced ALR-69 radar warning receiver. Zia's closest adviser, Lieutenant General Arif, later said that failure to include the equipment would aid the President's domestic critics, who want to prove that the US is unreliable. Arif suggested that the first delivery of six F-16s, which is scheduled for 2 December, not be made until the issue is resolved.

Comment: Zia's personal involvement in the issue indicates that Islamabad is making this a test of the US commitment. If the question is not settled before Zia visits the US in early December, he almost certainly will raise it in Washington. Islamabad has become increasingly concerned about relations with the US.

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